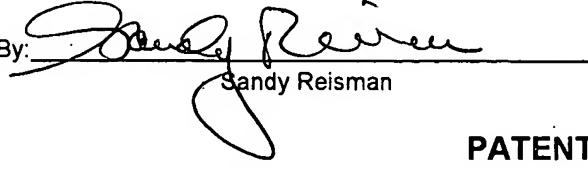




I hereby certify that the correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

Date: July 20, 2004

By: 

Sandy Reisman

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: VANI S. KATHULA ET AL.

APPLICATION NO.: 10/823,036

FILED: APRIL 12, 2004

FOR: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR GRADING  
THE INTERNAL CONDITION OF A PIPE**

EXAMINER: NOT YET ASSIGNED

ART UNIT: 2621

CONF. NO: 4110

**Information Disclosure Statement Within Three Months of  
Application Filing or Before First Action – 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

1. Timing of Submission

This information disclosure is being filed within three months of the filing date of this application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever occurs last [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)]. The references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) may be material to the examination of this application; the Examiner is requested to make them of record in the application.

2. Cited Information

Copies of the following references are enclosed:

- All cited non-patent literature references
- References marked by asterisks
- The following:

This application was filed after 30 June 2003 and no copies of U.S. patents nor published applications are enclosed (See Notice of Deputy Commissioner Kunin on 11 July 2003).

3. Effect of Information Disclosure Statement (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h))

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the cited information is, or is considered to be, material to patentability. In addition, applicant does not admit that any enclosed item of information constitutes prior art to the subject invention and specifically reserves the right to demonstrate that any such reference is not prior art.

4. Fee Payment

No fees are believed due because this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action.

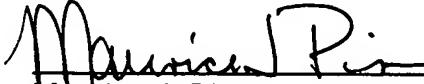
However, should the Commissioner determine that fees are due in order for this Information Disclosure Statement to be considered, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

5. Patent Term Adjustment (37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d))

The undersigned states that each item of information submitted herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d).

Respectfully submitted,  
Perkins Coie LLP

Date: July 19, 2004

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> Form PTO-1449 (Modified) (Use several sheets if necessary)				<b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>	
				Application Number	10/823,036
				Confirmation Number	4110
				Filing Date	April 12, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Vani S. Kathula
				Group Art Unit	2621
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
				Attorney Docket No.	166538009US
Sheet	1	of	1		

O I P E  
JUL 22 2004  
SEARCHED & SERIALIZED

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	U.S. Patent or Application		Name of Patentee or Inventor of Cited Document	Date of Publication or Filing Date of Cited Document
		NUMBER	Kind Code (if known)		
		US 2003 / 0171879	A1	Pittalwala et al.	09/11/2003
		4,998,208		Buhrow et al.	03/05/1991
		5,453,130		Maddox	09/26/1995
		6,125,868		Murphy et al.	10/03/2000
		6,556,924	B1	Kariyawasam et al.	04/29/2003

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent or Application			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication or Filing Date of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Office	NUMBER	Kind Code (if known)				

#### OTHER PRIOR ART-NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T
		Bradford, Ed et al. "Pipe Rating: A new approach to sewer rehabilitation." WEF Journal. February 2004. (pgs. 39-43 )	
		Ott, Wayne R. "Environmental Indices: Theory and Practice." Ann Arbor Science Publishers, Inc., 1978. (Chapter 2, pgs 49-93, 244-247)	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
<b>*EXAMINER:</b> Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance <u>and</u> not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application(s).	